

Executive Order

OFFICE OF
THE GOVERNOR

No. 08 FY02/03
February 5, 2003

AN ORDER ESTABLISHING THE TASK FORCE ON INCREASING EFFICIENCY AND EQUITY IN THE USE OF K-12 EDUCATION RESOURCES

WHEREAS, spending on elementary and secondary education is a large part of the budgets of Maine state government and municipalities; and

WHEREAS, Maine's investment in education has resulted in learning experiences our children deserve as measured by high test scores and exemplary high school graduation rates; and

WHEREAS, improved efficiencies in the delivery of K-12 education may result in great equity in the distribution and use of limited education resources and increased excellence in our schools; and

WHEREAS, to keep our commitment to education excellence, state, regional and local education leaders must join together to develop strategies for maximizing cost savings to be directed toward instruction;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, John E. Baldacci, Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby establish the Task Force on Increasing Efficiency and Equity in the Use of K-12 Education Resources (Task Force) as follows:

1. Duties

The Task Force shall:

- a. Examine all components of the K-12 education system in Maine to identify more efficient and equitable uses of resources;
- b. Examine state, regional, and local relationships with regard to school funding to determine practices that promote or detract from efficient and equitable use of resources;
- c. Consult with other study groups and stakeholders in carrying out its duties;
- d. Identify strategies used in other states to increase efficiencies;
- e. Identify incentives for improving efficiencies; and
- f. Act as a working group to recommend to the Governor actions to produce greater elementary and secondary excellence, efficiency and equity.

2. Procedures

The Task Force shall be led by a chair and vice-chair, and be composed of five (5) other members, appointed by the Governor. The Task Force shall meet at times and places called by the chair and with assistance from the Governor's Office and state agencies as necessary and appropriate to carry out its activities. The members of the Committee shall serve without compensation.

3. Other Resources and Support

The Task Force may accept staffing and other administrative support from outside sources as it deems appropriate to its duties.

4. Web Site Link

The Task Force shall provide a link on the Governor's Office web site to collect suggestions on potential K-12 education resources efficiencies.

5. Interim Report

The Task Force shall report to the Governor by May 1, 2003, on:

- a. The number and content of areas deserving of further examination by the Task Force pursuant to its duty to recommend actions to produce greater elementary and secondary education, excellence, efficiency and equity;
- b. The consultations it has had with other study groups and stakeholders; and
- c. Its recommendations for its further work plan.

6. Final Report

The Task Force shall submit a final report to the Governor by January 20, 2004. The final report must include recommendations for improving efficiency and equity in the use of K-12 education resources in Maine.

7. Effective Date

The effective date of this Executive Order is February 5, 2003.

John E. Baldacci, Governor